



Otay Mesa Pedestrian Entry/Exit Field Test

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) serves as America's frontline defense, safeguarding the homeland at and beyond our borders. Beginning in December, CBP is testing new biometric facial and iris technology at the Otay Mesa pedestrian crossing for certain non-U.S. citizens entering the U.S.

This is the first phase of a two-phase project that will test facial and iris technology (biometrics) in a pedestrian environment for both arrival and departure of certain non-U.S. citizens.

The departure phase will begin in February, at which point certain non-U.S. citizens departing the United States will provide their biometric data to CBP. Similar to the current airport outbound environment, CBP will continue to perform and record law enforcement queries for U.S. citizens as they depart the U.S. The use of biometric technology for certain non-U.S. citizens will improve CBP's ability to accurately record the arrival and departure of visitors, and better identify those who stay longer than permitted.

Q: What will be required of pedestrian travelers upon entering the United States?

A: There will be no change for U.S. citizens. Certain non-U.S. citizens will provide biographic information just as is done now, as well as facial photographs and iris images.

Q: What do I have to do upon entering?

A: The entry kiosks at Otay Mesa have been replaced with new kiosks equipped with a face and iris camera. The kiosk instructions have been updated to guide you through the enrollment process. After you have successfully provided a facial photograph and iris image, you will not be requested to do so again during the entry process.

Q: What will happen with my facial photograph and iris image?

A: The photograph and image will be used for research and evaluation purposes only and will be destroyed 1 (one) year after the end of the test. CBP is dedicated to protecting the privacy of all travelers.

Q: Where can I receive more information about this field test?

A: Please go to www.cbp.gov, or contact the CBP Call Center at 1-877-227-5511.

Q: What options are available if I experience difficulties during the new process?

A: Travelers may request to speak to a supervisor or may contact the DHS Traveler Redress Inquiry Program (DHS TRIP) via email at trip@dhs.gov.

**Please visit the U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Web site at www.cbp.gov**